



Montana Department of Commerce
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For Immediate Release

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**NINE MONTANA EVENTS RECEIVE \$50,000 IN “BED TAX” FUNDS THROUGH
THE SPECIAL EVENTS GRANT PROGRAM (SEGP)**

Helena – March 8, 2006 – Governor Brian Schweitzer is pleased to announce the nine communities selected to receive \$50,000 in tourism “bed tax” funds from the Montana Department of Commerce, Promotion Division’s Special Events Grant Program (SEGP). The nine Montana communities –Anaconda, Butte, Cooke City, Eureka, Glasgow, Glendive, Great Falls, Paradise and Rudyard will use the SEGP funds to assist in the promotion and implementation of tourism-related events.

“Strengthening the vitality of our communities through grant funding such as the Special Events Grants Program helps bolster our local and state economy while providing enhanced experiences for both our visitors and residents alike,” said Governor Schweitzer in announcing the SEGP awards.

Montana Department of Commerce Director Anthony J. Preite approved the SEGP funding following the recommendations made through a review and scoring process conducted by the Promotion Division and members of the Governor-appointed Tourism Advisory Council.

The nine 2006 SEGP awards are:

- \$10,000: Eureka, Eureka Montana Quilt Show - Eureka Quilt Show
- \$9,400: Butte, Butte Silver Bow Arts Foundation - Uptown Butte Arts & Heritage Revival Grand Finale
- \$9,000: Anaconda, Anaconda Project Facilitators - Blast from the Past
- \$6,100: Glasgow, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce - Glasgow Feather Fest
- \$4,000: Great Falls, Montana Expo Park - Spur & Spin
- \$3,500: Paradise, Sanders County Arts Council - Montana Baroque Music Festival
- \$2,850: Rudyard, Rudyard Commercial Club - Festival of Lights
- \$2,650: Cooke City, Cooke City Community Council - Old Fashioned Fish Fry & Big Fish Contest

\$2,500 Glendive, Friends of Makoshika - Music in Makoshika

The SEGP was developed in 2002 to assist communities with economic development through the creation and/or enhancement of new annual, on-going events. To date, the SEGP program has provided \$301,000 in tourism “bed tax” funds to 45 events in 33 Montana communities.

Deadline for the next round of grant applications will be mid-January 2007. For information, contact the Montana Promotion Division, 406-841-2870.

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